Monitoring of large value frauds by RBI

2144. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Reserve Bank of India is considering a proposal to monitor only large value frauds in banks which have systemic implications;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for such a proposal; and

(d) which agency would be monitoring other frauds in banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Waiver of interest on crop loans

2145. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the decision of Government regarding waiver of interest to farmers on their kharif 2002 crop loans and full re-imbursement thereof by the Central Government, as announced earlier in view of wide-spread drought and in view of NABARD not implementing Government assurances of total waiver of interest specially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Considering the severe drought during the Kharif 2002, Hon'ble Prime Minister announced in the parliament on 18th December, 2002 to convert the short term Kharif crop loan, 2002 along with its interest into 4/5 years term loan and to waive of first year deferred liability of interest subject to a maximum of 20% of total interest as a one-time measure to mitigate the hardship of drought affected farmers. AS a follow up, RBI *vide* their circular dated 27th December, 2002 advised all scheduled commerical banks

accordingly and NABARD did the same for Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks.

NABARD has already reimbursed Rs. 9.92 crore towards the interest waived by 14 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the State of Andhra Pradesh under the scheme announced by the Government of India. As regards Cooperatives, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh had its own scheme to waive of 100% interest on Kharif 2002 crop loans, provided the farmers repay the principal. Since the scheme envisaged repayment of principal, the Cooperative Banks had not extended term loan conversion facility to the farmers and hence were not eligible for reimbursement of even the first year deferred interest liability waived by them.

Malpractices by drug companies

2146. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MRTP Commission received a number of complaints about malpractices by drug companies;

(b) if so, the details of complaints/issues raised during the last three years;

(c) what are the names of drug companies involved in each case and stage of action taken; and

(d) by when the complaints will be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Statement is attached. (See below).

(d) The MRTP Commission is a quasi-judicial body as such, a time frame for disposal of remaining cases cannot be set,